

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/541,798	SONG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	VEI-CHUNG LIANG	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Oct 15, 2009.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 12-16, 19-22 (renumbered as 1 - 19).
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/15/2009, 12/30/2009
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/30/2009.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

/V.L./	/Neveen Abel-Jalil/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165
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DETAILED ACTION

1. The Action is responsive to Applicants' Amendment filed on October 15, 2009.
2. After a thorough search and examination of the present application, and in light of the following:

the prior art made of record;

Examiner's Amendments, which was authorized on December 30, 2009 to amend claims 1, 16, 22 and cancel claims 11, 17, and 18; and

Examiner's update search conducted against prior art on different domains (EAST, ACM, Google-Scholar, IEEE);

Claims 1 - 10, 12 – 16, and 19 – 22 (renumbered as 1 - 19) are allowed.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements (IDS) received on October 15, 2009 and December 30, 2009 have been considered by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
4. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael K. Kinney (Reg. No. 42, 740) on December 30, 2009.

5. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A system for storing knowledge, information and data (KID), comprising:

a plurality of sources of KID;

a plurality of receivers of KID from said plurality of sources; and

a universal knowledge, information and data store (UKIDS), said UKIDS having a plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions for segregating and storing said KID in a priority-based and standardized scheme within said UKIDS, said priority based and standardized scheme includes a clustering of KID into a plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets for transferability between said receivers, extensibility across data store platforms within said UKIDS and scalability in understanding of said KID by each of said receivers, said predefined professional storage subsets cluster KID into said levels and partitions of an enterprise shell, a business unit shell, a division shell, departmental shell, team shell and an individual shell, said system further including rules and tools for configuring said UKIDS and for storing and accessing KID included therein;

said rules define methods for allocating KID within one of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets, for purging KID from said UKIDS, and for efficiently sharing and distributing KID between said receivers;

said tools include features and functions for presenting news and advertising of interest to said receivers, for identifying targeted storage locations within specific ones of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets, for backup and archiving KID and for securing KID in said UKIDS; and

a first one of said physical and logical levels and partitions segregates and stores KID into one of said predefined personal storage subsets and said predefined professional storage subsets, said predefined personal storage subsets segregates and stores KID into a second one of said physical and logical levels including partitions of a TEAMS OF PEOPLE storage subset, an ACTIVITIES storage subset and an ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION storage subset, and predefined professional storage subsets segregates and stores KID into a plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels, each of said plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels including partitions of a CLIENTS storage subset, an OUTPUT storage subset, a TEAMS storage subset and an ADMINISTRATION storage subset, and each of said plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels is one of said enterprise shell, said business unit shell, said division shell, said departmental shell, said team shell and said individual shell for said KID;

wherein said rules for allocating KID include:

eliminating software application default storage locations such that electronic KID is stored within one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;
implementing one storage system spanning electronic and physical storage locations;

using said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions to break ties when KID is placeable in more than one of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets;

using a general storage subset for storing KID that properly references more than one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;

labeling all KID so as to include at least a date and a title thereof;

employing a numerical indication of priority within a subset label for a selected storage subset when said selected storage subset contains a relatively large number of KID subsets;

maximizing availability of icons representing subsets of said physical and logical levels and partitions to highlight pathways for locating KID;

when options for searching one subset of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions exceeds a predetermined number of KID storage locations, re-organizing said subset through sub-categorization;

arranging physical storage locations to reflect said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions and consistently labeling said physical storage locations;

establishing guidelines for duration of KID storage in electronic and physical UKIDS storage means; and

naming subset KID storage categories to describe content and context of the KID being stored therein.

2. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said TEAMS OF PEOPLE storage subset includes KID pertaining to family, friends, and other groups of person of interest to said receivers.

3. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said ACTIVITIES storage subset includes KID pertaining to vacations, sports, entertainment, spirituality, hobbies, and other activities.

4. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION storage subset includes KID pertaining to home upkeep, bills and other financial concerns.

5. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said CLIENTS storage subset includes KID pertaining to philosophical groups of internal and external clients, customers, patrons, client projects, markets, key vendors, and sales territories.

6. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said OUTPUT storage subset includes KID pertaining to products, services, value added products and services, and any of the aforementioned offered to clients.

7. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said TEAMS storage subset includes KID pertaining to partnerships, collaborations, and any grouping of individuals that provide output to clients.

8. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said ADMINISTRATION storage subset includes KID pertaining to an operation and coordination of a business, business services, work flow and personnel, and non-core job responsibility.

9. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 wherein said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions span a plurality of data storage platforms including electronic and hard-copy storage means.

10. (Original) The storage system of claim 9 wherein said electronic storage means includes computer hard drives, backup and recovery media and off-line storage media.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1 further including a graphical user interface that allows each of said receivers direct access to electronic

stored KID within said logical levels and partitions of said UKIDS and to launch one or more of said tools.

13. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 12, wherein said graphical user interface allows each of said receivers to distribute KID to other of said receivers and to identify a targeted location for storing said KID within one of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions.

14. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 13 wherein said targeted storage location is comprised of a path for manual storage of said distributed KID within said physical and logical levels and partitions.

15. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 13 wherein said targeted storage location is comprised of at least a partially automated one of said tools such that, upon request, said distributed KID is automatically stored in a specified one of said physical and logical levels and partitions.

16. (Currently amended) A storage management system, comprising:
a universal knowledge information and data store (UKIDS), said UKIDS having a plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions for segregating and storing knowledge, information and data (KID) in a priority-based and standardized scheme within said UKIDS, said priority based and standardized scheme includes a universal

clustering of KID into a plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets for transferability between receivers of said KID, extensibility across data store platforms within said UKIDS and scalability in understanding of said KID by each of said receivers, said predefined professional storage subsets cluster KID into said levels and partitions of an enterprise shell, a business unit shell, a division shell, departmental shell, team shell and an individual shell, said system further including rules and tools for configuring said UKIDS and for storing and accessing KID included therein;

 said rules define methods for allocating KID within one of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets, for purging KID from said UKIDS, and for efficiently sharing and distributing KID between said receivers;

 said tools include features and functions for presenting news and advertising of interest to said receivers, for identifying targeted storage locations within specific ones of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets, for backup and archiving KID and for securing KID in said UKIDS; and

 a first one of said physical and logical levels and partitions segregates and stores KID into one of said predefined personal storage subsets and said predefined professional storage subsets, said predefined personal storage subsets segregates and stores KID into a second one of said physical and logical levels including partitions of a TEAMS OF PEOPLE storage subset, an ACTIVITIES storage subset and an ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION storage subset, and predefined professional storage subsets segregates and stores KID into a plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels, each of said plurality of second ones of said physical and

logical levels including partitions of a CLIENTS storage subset, an OUTPUT storage subset, a TEAMS storage subset and an ADMINISTRATION storage subset, and each of said plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels is one of said enterprise shell, said business unit shell, said division shell, said departmental shell, said team shell and said individual shell for said KID;

wherein said rules for allocating KID include:

eliminating software application default storage locations such that electronic KID is stored within one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;

implementing one storage system spanning electronic and physical storage locations;

using said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions to break ties when KID is placeable in more than one of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets;

using a general storage subset for storing KID that properly references more than one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;

labeling all KID so as to include at least a date and a title thereof;

employing a numerical indication of priority within a subset label for a selected storage subset when said selected storage subset contains a relatively large number of KID subsets;

maximizing availability of icons representing subsets of said physical and logical levels and partitions to highlight pathways for locating KID;

when options for searching one subset of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions exceeds a predetermined number of KID storage locations, re-organizing said subset through sub-categorization; arranging physical storage locations to reflect said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions and consistently labeling said physical storage locations;
establishing guidelines for duration of KID storage in electronic and physical UKIDS storage means; and
naming subset KID storage categories to describe content and context of the KID being stored therein.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said rules for purging KID include, at a predetermined time period:

separating KID into a first category of KID that is needed, a second category of KID that is not needed but retained on hand, and a third category of KID that is not needed and not retained;
purgung said third category; and
placing said second category into a long term storage location.

20. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said rules for purging KID include, when an employee leaves a position, providing a copy of said plurality of personal storage subsets to said employee, moving said plurality of personal storage subsets to a long term storage location, and purging said personal storage subsets from said UKIDS.

21. (Previously presented) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said rules for sharing and distributing KID include:

 prior to when an employee leaves a position, having said employee provide a successor employee a tour of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions within said UKIDS and identify important KID stored therein;

 identifying to a recipient receiver a targeted location for storing distributed KID within one of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions; and

 employing quantity reduction and content quality improvement goals for reducing a volume of distributed KID.

22. (Currently amended) A system for storing knowledge, information and data (KID), comprising:

 a plurality of sources of KID;

 a plurality of receivers of KID from said plurality of sources; and

a universal knowledge, information and data store (UKIDS), said UKIDS having a plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions for segregating and storing said KID in a priority-based and standardized scheme within said UKIDS, said priority based and standardized scheme includes a clustering of KID into a plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets for transferability between said receivers, extensibility across data store platforms within said UKIDS and scalability in understanding of said KID by each of said receivers, said predefined professional storage subsets cluster KID into said levels and partitions of an enterprise shell, a business unit shell, a division shell, departmental shell, team shell and an individual shell, said system further including rules and tools for configuring said UKIDS and for storing and accessing KID included therein;

said rules define methods for allocating KID within one of said plurality of predefined professional storage subsets, for purging KID from said UKIDS, and for efficiently sharing and distributing KID between said receivers;

said tools include features and functions for presenting news and advertising of interest to said receivers, for identifying targeted storage locations within specific ones of said plurality of predefined professional storage subsets, for backup and archiving KID and for securing KID in said UKIDS; and

a first one of said physical and logical levels and partitions segregates and stores KID into said personal storage subset and said plurality of predefined professional storage subsets, said plurality of predefined professional storage subsets segregates and stores KID into a plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels, each of

said plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels including partitions of a CLIENTS storage subset, an OUTPUT storage subset, a TEAMS storage subset and an ADMINISTRATION storage subset, and each of said plurality of second ones of said physical and logical levels is one of said enterprise shell, said business unit shell, said division shell, said departmental shell, said team shell and said individual shell for said KID;

wherein said rules for allocating KID include:

eliminating software application default storage locations such that electronic KID is stored within one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;
implementing one storage system spanning electronic and physical storage locations;

using said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions to break ties when KID is placeable in more than one of said plurality of predefined personal and professional storage subsets;

using a general storage subset for storing KID that properly references more than one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions;

labeling all KID so as to include at least a date and a title thereof;
employing a numerical indication of priority within a subset label for a selected storage subset when said selected storage subset contains a relatively large number of KID subsets;

maximizing availability of icons representing subsets of said physical and logical levels and partitions to highlight pathways for locating KID;
when options for searching one subset of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions exceeds a predetermined number of KID storage locations, re-organizing said subset through sub-categorization;
arranging physical storage locations to reflect said priority based and standardized scheme of said plurality of physical and logical levels and partitions and consistently labeling said physical storage locations;
establishing guidelines for duration of KID storage in electronic and physical UKIDS storage means; and
naming subset KID storage categories to describe content and context of the KID being stored therein.

Reasons for Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
7. In the Examiner's Office Action, mailed on April 15, 2009, 8. Claims 1 – 19, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Copperman et al. US 6,711,585 B1 (hereinafter referred as Copperman) in view of Szabo US 7,181,438 B1 (hereinafter referred as Szabo). 9. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Copperman et al. US 6,711,585 B1 (hereinafter referred as Copperman) in view of Szabo US 7,181,438 B1 (hereinafter referred as Szabo) and in view of Francis et al. US PGPub 2003/0101153 A1 (hereinafter referred as Francis).

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Copperman et al. US 6,711,585 B1 (hereinafter referred as Copperman) in view of Szabo US 7,181,438 B1 (hereinafter referred as Szabo) and in view of Official Notice.

8. In a response filed on May 14, 2009, to the above mentioned Office Action, the Applicant argued that the prior art fails to teach the newly added limitation of a UKIDS that spans both hard-copy and logical levels which partitions personal and professional storage subsets. In the Examiner proposed amendment, the limitation of specific allocation rules including eliminating software application default storage locations such that electronic KID is stored within one of said plurality of logical levels and partitions has been incorporated in the claims 1, 16, and 22.

Based on the subject matter as amended and incorporated, the Examiner is persuaded that the cited reference does not fairly teach or suggest the subject matter described by the combined limitations above and further detailed in the independent claims 1, 16, and 22.

9. Among the closest found prior art, Copperman teaches a knowledge management system; Szabo teaches personal and professional partitions of data. However, the combination of the references does not fairly teach or suggest the limitation cited while reading the claims as a whole. The reference also does not teach or suggest the limitations incorporated in the proposed amended claims.

10. An update search as described below for the claims 1, 16, and 22 as of lastly amended by an Examiner's Amendments for the present application, is hereby conducted and the search result is hereby considered.

A search for the prior arts on EAST database has been recently conducted to further extend and update the scope the searches. Besides patent database, searching over non-patent literature databases are also performed (ACM, Google Scholar, IEEE). The prior arts searched and investigated in patent and non-patent domains, do not fairly teach or suggest the teaching of the combined elements as claimed in the independent claims 1, 16, and 22.

After a search and a thorough examination of the present Application and in light of the prior art, Claims 1 - 10, 12 – 16, and 19 – 22 (renumbered as 1 - 19) are allowed.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VEI-CHUNG LIANG whose telephone number is

(571)270-1984. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.- Fri., 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Neveen Abel-Jalil can be reached on (571)272-4074. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

December 31, 2009
/V.L./
Vei-Chung Liang, Ph.D.
Examiner, Art Unit 2165

/Neveen Abel-Jalil/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165